

REMARKS

Claims 1-13 are now pending in the application. Claims 1, 10, and 12 are amended. Support for the Amendments can be found in the originally filed specification at page 21, lines 8-19, page 25, lines 7-11, page 26, lines 13-22, page 30, lines 2-7. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 1-13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim (U.S. Pat. No. 6,975,995) in view of Yoon (U.S. PUB. No. 2004/0125144). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As an initial matter, Applicants believe that Yoon is not prior art to the claimed invention. For example, Yoon does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(a) or 102(b) because the publication date of Yoon does not predate the U.S. filing date of the Applicants' application. Also, Yoon does not qualify as prior art under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) because the U.S. effective filing date of Yoon does not predate the date of priority established by perfection of the claim of benefit of foreign priority of the Applicants' application (12-10-2002). Applicants file herewith an English language translation of the priority document in order to perfect the claim of benefit of foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(d). Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections of Claims 1-13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kim in view of Yoon.

As an additional matter, Applicants have amended the independent claims to overcome the rejections. In particular, Applicants demonstrate the Kim does not teach, suggest, or motivate limitations recited in the independent claims, especially as amended. Moreover, Applicants demonstrate that Kim in view of Yoon does not teach, suggest, or motivate limitations recited in the independent claims, especially as amended. Applicants aver that support for the Amendments can be found in the originally filed specification at page 21, lines 8-19, page 25, lines 7-11, page 26, lines 13-22, page 30, lines 2-7.

The Examiner relies on Kim to teach that the user can select a type of musical instrument to be employed personally by the user to perform a part of a musical piece. A musical score and MIDI data for accompaniment parts are thus downloaded to a computer of the like to play the accompanying parts while displaying the musical score to the user. Of note, the computer is presumed to be able to reproduce the MIDI data and the image of the musical score, and the user does not need to designate a product and model name for the data reproducing equipment in order to selectively search for and selectively supply content of a data format reproducible by the data reproducing equipment. Rather, the user only needs to select a musical part by musical instrument type, which differentiates musical content by parts, and does not differentiate data format compatibility. Thus, Kim supplies no teaching, suggestion, or motivation to register particular data reproducing equipment by selecting a product and model name of the data reproducing equipment to be used by the user, selectively search, from among a plurality of items of content of multiple data formats for particular content of a data format compatible with the data reproducing equipment registered in association

with the user; and selectively supply the user with content displaying information indicative of the particular content of the data format compatible with the registered data reproducing equipment.

The Examiner relies on Yoon to teach a user interface that guides a user to drag and drop content of a particular file extension to a file folder designated for content of the particular file extension. The user registers files by file extension rather than registering data reproducing equipment by product and model name. Then the user selects a category of content type (e.g., "My Music") in order to cause the music files to be reproduced. Again, there is no need to designate a product and model name for the data reproducing equipment in order to selectively search for and selectively supply content of a data format reproducible by the data reproducing equipment. Thus, Kim and Yoon supply no teaching, suggestion, or motivation to register particular data reproducing equipment by selecting a product and model name of the data reproducing equipment to be used by the user, selectively search, from among a plurality of items of content of multiple data formats for particular content of a data format compatible with the data reproducing equipment registered in association with the user; and selectively supply the user with content displaying information indicative of the particular content of the data format compatible with the registered data reproducing equipment.

Applicants' claimed invention is directed to an information supplying method or apparatus that causes a user to register particular data reproducing equipment by selecting a product and model name of the data reproducing equipment to be used by the user, and then: (a) selectively searches, from among a plurality of items of content of multiple data formats for particular content of a data format compatible with the data

reproducing equipment registered in association with the user; and (b) selectively supplies the user with content displaying information indicative of the particular content of the data format compatible with the registered data reproducing equipment. For example, independent claim 1, especially as amended, recites, “causing a user to select, from among a plurality of product and model names of data reproducing equipment, particular data reproducing equipment to be used by the user, and registering the particular data reproducing equipment, selected by the user, in association with the user ... selectively searching a plurality of items of content of multiple data formats for particular content of a data format compatible with the data reproducing equipment registered by said registration step in association with the user, wherein the plurality of items of content of multiple data formats includes: (a) items of content of data formats not compatible with the data reproducing equipment registered in association with the user; and (b) items of content of data formats not compatible with the data reproducing equipment registered in association with the user; and ... selectively supplying the user with content displaying information indicative of the particular content of the data format compatible with the data reproducing equipment registered.” Independent claims 10 and 12, especially as amended, recite similar subject matter. Therefore, Kim and Yoon do not teach all of the limitations of the independent claims. These differences are significant because the claimed invention can supply each interested user with only content displaying information indicative of content usable in data reproducing equipment possessed by the user, so that the user can efficiently acquire only content usable in the user’s data reproducing equipment with no waste.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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By: Gregory Stobbs
Gregory A. Stobbs
Reg. No. 28,764

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600